(d) to what extent is there a need for a more active role by the NHAI; and

(e) the details of the steps proposed to energies the NHAI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed by NHAI for medical help to accident victims with following hospitals/medical organizations:

(i) Dr. M.N. Tandon Charitable Trust, Jaipur for helping accident victims on NH-8 (Gurgaon-Amer Section)

(ii) M/s Life Line Foundation for accident victims on NH-8 (Ahmedabad-Surat Section)

(c) No. Sir.

(d) and (e) Ambulances are provided as a part of Operation and Maintenance activity in completed stretches of National Highways to provide relief to accident victims. The victims are transferred to nearest hospital after providing first aid. A list of hospitals which can provide trauma care is maintained for this purpose by the Authority and given to the drivers of the ambulances.

Private Sector participation in Port Sector

1819. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the private sector participation in the port sector has yielded good results in economic development of the country;

(b) the areas of private participation which have yielded good income to the Government; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to encourage investment in the port sector?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Private sector participation in the major ports has taken place mainly in development and/or management and operation of multipurpose

berths, bulk cargo berths including dry and liquid bulk and container terminals under a Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) or Lease arrangement. Revenue has accrued to the major ports concerned from these facilities as per the terms stipulated in the Concession Agreement between the port and the private operator. The revenue accrual to the port has been mainly in the form of upfront payment by the private operator, a share of the revenue earned by the private operator, lease rentals for the assets handed over to the private operator and port dues

(c) Investment for development of infrastructure in the Port Sector is made both from Public Funds (comprising budgetary support and internal & extra budgetary resources of the ports) and through private investment. Investment from Public Funds is made for identified projects/schemes which are included in the Annual Plans. Government has issued comprehensive guidelines for private sector participation in major ports which lay down the areas and mode of participation, bidding procedures, terms and conditions of participation, model documents and selection criteria for such participation. These guidelines are aimed at making the sector investor friendly and ensuring open and transparent procedures.

Road safety programmes

1820. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH. Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have invited proposals from voluntary organisations for undertaking road safety programmes;

(b) the total amount of grants-in-aid that Government would give to voluntary organisation for conducting these programmes; and

(c) the kind of audit and monitoring mechanism that is adopted by Government to ensure effectiveness of these programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The maximum grants-in-aid which can be given to an NGO under the scheme of administering road safety programmes is Rs. 5.00 lacs. The amount of grant sanctioned to various NGOs depends upon their experience, past performance, and capacity to undertake the various